

**OPINION 2281 (Case 3507)*****Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887 (Bryozoa, Fenestrata, Phylloporinina): *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875 designated as the type species**

**Abstract.** The Commission has set aside *Retepora angulata* Hall, 1852 and *Retepora angulata* Hall as applied by Foerste, 1887 as type species of the Palaeozoic bryozoan genus *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887 and replaced them with *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Bryozoa; Phylloporinina; PHYLLOPORINIDAE; *Phylloporina*; *Chasmatopora*; *Retepora angulata*; *Retepora trentonensis*; bryozoans; Palaeozoic.

---

**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power all previous type species fixations for the nominal genus *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887 are hereby set aside and *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875 is hereby designated as the type species.
- (2) The name *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887 (gender: feminine), type species *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875 by designation in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875, as published in the binomen *Retepora trentonensis* (specific name of the type species of *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887, as ruled in (1) above) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3507**

An application to set aside *Retepora angulata* Hall, 1852 and *Retepora angulata* Hall as applied by Foerste, 1887 as type species of the Palaeozoic bryozoan genus *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887 and replace them with *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875, was received from Frank K. McKinney (*Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, U.S.A.*) and Patrick N. Wyse Jackson (*Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland*) on 18 November 2009. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 67: 38–43 (March 2010). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments were received on this case.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 March 2011 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 67: 41. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2011 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 23: Ballerio, Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Brothers, Fautin, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Kottelat, Krell, Kullander, Lamas, Minelli, Pape, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys, van Tol, Winston, Yanega, Zhang and Zhou.

Negative votes – 2: Kojima and Ng.

Alonso-Zarazaga, Lim and Pyle were on leave of absence.

Voting FOR, Štys said he wondered why the more straightforward solution was not suggested that would affect only the date and not the type species. *Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887, type species *Retepora angulata* Foerste, 1887 non Hall, 1852 (misidentified, later renamed *Chasmatopora foerstei* McKinney & Wyse Jackson, 2010; fixed by monotypy) was a senior homonym of *Phylloporina* Ulrich, 1890 (type species *Retepora trentonensis* Nicholson, 1875; subsequently designated by Ulrich, 1895). The senior homonym (a junior subjective synonym of *Chasmatopora* Eichwald, 1855) could simply have been suppressed in favour of the junior name. However, Winston, also voting FOR, said she thought the present solution was the simplest way to clarify a confused nomenclatural problem.

Voting AGAINST, Kojima said that for the stability of the generic name *Phylloporina*, he did not find it necessary to set aside all previous type species fixations for the nominal genus *Phylloporina* and to designate *Retepora trentonensis* as the type species. Ng, also voting AGAINST, said he was not convinced that a ruling needed to be made, even though the authors made an excellent case for how complicated the taxonomy of the two genera involved was and how doubtful the true identities of the type species. These animals were of minimal scientific impact and were currently the subject of study only by taxonomists. He felt that it might be best just to accept that the type species was *Retepora angulata* Hall, 1852 and move the taxonomy on from there. It mattered not what the original intent was or whose concept it was, as long as there was now a one-off resolution and the science could progress from that point. Ng granted that there would be a short period of confusion but he felt that taxonomists could surely cope.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*Phylloporina* Ulrich in Foerste, 1887, *Bulletin of the Scientific Laboratories of Denison University*, **2**: 150.

*trentonensis*, *Retepora*, Nicholson, 1875, *Geological Magazine, New Series, Decade 2*, **2**: 37.